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## CALIFORNIA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

January 11, 2006

Mr. Lester Snow, Director  
Department of Water Resources  
P. O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-001

**RE: SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

Dear Mr. Snow:

On behalf of the California Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express strong support for the Department of Water Resources' South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP).

The South Delta Implementation Program is exactly the kind of smart investment in infrastructure that California needs to sustain its vibrant economy. Part of the SDIP is expected to provide a 1 percent to 3 percent increase in water supply to agricultural and urban areas south of the Delta. This is accomplished by increasing water diversions through Clifton Court Forebay to 8,500 cubic-feet-per-second up from the current level of 6,680 cubic-feet-per-second.

California is faced with a rapidly growing population that will require a consistent, reliable source of water. The state has limited water supplies which requires optimizing existing sources and infrastructure. Two-thirds of the state's population receives its water from the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Thus it is critical to manage the Delta's water delivery system as well as the water itself. SDIP offers the operational flexibility necessary to accomplish that goal.

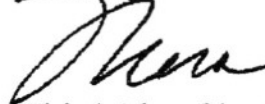
Given the enormity of infrastructure repair and modernization needs, costing millions of dollars and taking dozens of years, the South Delta Implementation Program is a must. It can be accomplished in a relatively short time frame, does not require any new infrastructure and it is mostly funded.

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The Chamber believes that the SDIP should go forward as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Valerie Nera, Director  
Agriculture, Resources & Privacy

cc The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
Mr. Ryan Brodderick, Director, California Department of Fish and Game  
Mr. Mike Chrisman, Secretary, California Resources Agency  
Mr. Joe Grindstaff, Director California Bay-Delta Authority  
Mr. Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Mr. Dan Skopec, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Mr. Fred Aguiar, Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor

VN:rc